

A FREE ONLINE EVENT FOR ALL TASMANIANS



# Thriving Tasmania: *emerging stronger*

Summary Document August 2020



# About: THRIVING TASMANIA

COVID-19 disrupted our way of life, forced rapid change and new ways of doing things. We have a choice: to go back to 'business as usual' or to boldly create a stronger, thriving Tasmania.

Thriving Tasmania was a virtual conversation open to Tasmanians of all backgrounds and ages to reflect on what COVID-19 has shown us and what is important to us to emerge and thrive. 140 Tasmanians came together full of energy, ideas and dreams to share their wishes for recovery and beyond. Thriving Tasmania:

- Showed how we can use technology in a new way of engaging our community using a collaborative, strengths-based approach.
- Provided a mechanism for Tasmanians of all backgrounds, ages, regions and sectors to be involved in the process of recovery.
- Provided a moment in time to connect Tasmanians to lift their sights to a shared future horizon providing a sense of togetherness, optimism and agency in recovery.

This document synthesizes the wishes and priorities shared by our Thriving Tasmania participants. This is not an academic document or representative sample. It is intended to give a pulse on Tasmanian perspectives.

**Approach** Two virtual conversations were held, the first on Monday 29 June 2020 at 4 to 6pm, the second on Thursday 9 July at 10am to Noon using an approach called Appreciative Inquiry. The event was largely held in small 'breakout' groups where participants shared stories in response to a series of questions. Participants captured key points via Survey Monkey which has been consolidated into this summary document. The two-hour conversation had four phases:

- **Discover:** what emerged stronger as a result of COVID-19
- **Dream:** wishes for a thriving Tasmania
- **Design:** unlocking commitment to emerge stronger
- **Deploy:** asks and offers and way forward

## What's next?

Thriving Tasmania intends to inform:

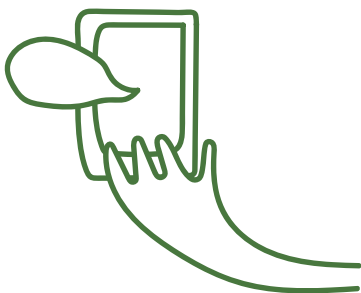
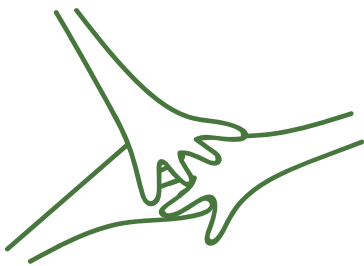
- Participants and Tasmanians to take forward the ideas and actions into businesses, organisations, communities or households to contribute to a stronger, thriving Tasmania.
- The Tasmanian Way process to facilitate a state-wide response to the UN2030 Sustainable Development Goals.
- Shared into the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council consultation process.

For more information go to:

[www.tasmanianway.org/thrivingtasmania](http://www.tasmanianway.org/thrivingtasmania)



# Discover: What emerged stronger as a result of COVID-19?



Our Thriving Tasmanians paired up to consider: What emerged stronger as a result of COVID-19? Below is a summary of key topics that emerged through their stories:

- **Connection:** to family, community, local producers and businesses.
- **Slowing down:** having more space and time for self, family, reflection and creativity.
- **Gratitude:** for where we live, the community we are a part of and things that may have been taken for granted in the past.
- **Technology:** being able to connect with others and work from home.
- **Inclusivity:** more accepting of others; more honesty amongst friends, family and colleagues.
- **Innovation and creativity:** businesses finding new ways to work; communities finding new ways to support and connect.
- **Environment:** less roadkill; more appreciative of our States natural beauty.



## Success factors in emerging stronger:

flexability experience adaptability  
constant connection  
Leadership together Support  
well-being attitude ask  
sharing trust Care questions Community  
building technology local networks  
Skills people learning Change  
Creativity time collaboration  
Confidence working value Others  
conversations Innovation  
willingness awareness resilience  
collective



# Dream: wishes for a thriving Tasmania

Our Thriving Tasmanians shared in groups of 3 to 5 people: If you could have 1 wish, anything at all, to create a thriving Tasmania what would it be?



**Inclusive:** The needs of all Tasmanians are valued and respected as part of our community, particularly the most vulnerable.



**Education:** Tasmania has an education system that enables better educational outcomes for all people in Tasmania built on nurturing connection to jobs, entrepreneurial thinking, and generations.



**Low Emissions:** Tasmania is a carbon sink for Australia spearheading a genuine low-carbon economy and our communities are prepared for impacts of climate change.



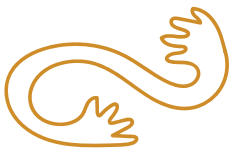
**Environment:** Tasmania is a leader in restoring natural systems, protecting wild places and finding ways of living that value the natural environment.



**Community:** All Tasmanians are proud and empowered members of their connected and resilient communities and take part in finding solutions to local problems.



**Creative:** Tasmania has a thriving creative sector that nurtures creative collaborations, arts and culture, enables innovation and celebrates pride in Tasmania.



**Circular Economy:** Tasmanian businesses, industry, government and research are reducing emissions, designing out waste and pollution, regenerating natural systems and adding value to local production as we meet our societal and economic needs.



**Government:** Tasmania has bold and courageous leaders that work together to move forward brave actions connected to long-term outcomes that are based on science, integrity, values and voices of all Tasmanians.



**Wellbeing:** Tasmania is a leader in prioritising wellbeing through co-designing what wellbeing looks like at an individual and community level.



## Themes in a Thriving Tasmania:

**Inclusive:** The needs of all Tasmanians are valued and respected as part of our community, particularly the most vulnerable.

- All Tasmanians are food secure.
- All Tasmanians have safe and secure housing.
- All Tasmanians practice respect, kindness and gratitude.
- Universal basic income/living wage. We have seen the benefits of the stimulus packages. We need to do things that improve the whole of society.
- Connected intergenerationally and multiculturally, valuing diversity and empathy.
- People with disadvantage and disability are included in the conversation.
- Invite the wider community to engage more with the prison community.

**Low Emissions:** Tasmania is a carbon sink for Australia spearheading a genuine low-carbon economy and our communities are prepared for impacts of climate change.

- An inclusive, healthy and electrified transport system including buses, ferries, cycling and walk ways
- Embrace innovation in hydrogen economy, biogas, solar, batteries
- Collective action and collaboration to change how we live and work

- Strengths-based learning, what is working well and how we can grow it
- Holistic action from the mountain top to the sea catchment approach. This is the best place on earth to do this.

**Community:** All Tasmanians are proud and empowered members of their connected and resilient communities and take part in finding solutions to local problems.

- Smart design of trauma-informed safe spaces, gardens and hubs in suburbs and inner city to learn, share, support and encourage volunteerism and connection
- Invest in local spaces that foster community connection and encourage courageous conversation with people from diverse backgrounds.
- Working together toward forward looking, bold and brave actions in every community
- Community empowerment in resilience building, skilling up our diverse communities so that solutions will come from a community level engagement (participatory behaviour, community ownership)
- Valuing local neighbourhoods and community in creating resilience.



**Circular Economy:** Tasmanian businesses, industry, government and research are reducing emissions, designing out waste and pollution, regenerating natural systems and adding value to local production as we meet our societal and economic needs.

- Economic opportunities that are aligned to meeting social foundation, while existing within biophysical boundaries (Donut Economics)
- Driving sustainable practice, sharing and connectedness across business, government and academia
- Produce local, eat local, grow local, buy local
- Regenerative agriculture and progressive farming practices to sequester carbon dioxide within soil
- Being resilient and regenerative – thinking innovatively and outside of the box

**Wellbeing:** Tasmania is a leader in prioritising wellbeing through co-designing what wellbeing looks like at an individual and community level.

- Slowing down and balance work, family, healthy lifestyle.
- Health is dependent on a healthy environment and whole community health.
- Equitable society. People feel they belong and see a role for themselves and potential hope for the future influencing the circles of the people in your life through authentic small actions that will ripple to bigger change. Bold actions are to speak and act with honesty and to create opportunities and help people know they can demand a voice and a place for themselves to create a future together.

**Education:** Tasmania has an education system that enables better educational outcomes for all people in Tasmania built on nurturing connection to jobs, entrepreneurial thinking, and generations.

- School gardens in primary, secondary and beyond.
- Support for enterprising Tasmanians, bringing small and micro-business thinking into the school system, more exposure to potential career paths and mentorship.
- Increase educational levels, better school retention rates.
- More life experience to kids and more satisfaction to people who choose to assist mentoring. Exposure to knowing what is possible for them in the future.
- Innovation in education that is founded on connections between different areas of place-based knowledge, skills and innovation.
- Felt need. Equity. Community-led change. Self-determining community. Regenerative thinking. Listening and responding. Deep listening. Responding authentically to community views and voices. Responding with conviction to community needs and wants. Respect. Collaborative and collective work and education. Innovation. Education as the bridge into a better society.
- Tasmania that has good jobs for our young people, and they want to stay on the island.



**Environment:** Tasmania is a leader in restoring natural systems, protecting wild places and finding ways of living that value the natural environment.

- Tasmanians have their voices heard in relation to environmental action and protection
- Facilitate open dialogue and collaboration between government, tourism operators/ owners and locals to find sustainable balance in protection of natural environments, tourism developments, and increasing tourist numbers.
- Prioritise education on preserving Tasmania's natural environments before visitors arrive into the state, and widely disperse this education accessibly across the state.
- By placing higher value on the natural environment and what it has to offer, new and sustainable ways of living can be implemented.
- Nurture greater employment in an environmental protection capacity.
- Policies respect the science, have environmental checks, measure progress and impacts such as an ecological and wellbeing dashboard.
- For Tasmanians to deepen their appreciation of all Tasmania has to offer on all levels natural environments, wilderness, and the potential for thriving.

**Creative:** Tasmania has a thriving creative sector that nurtures creative collaborations, arts and culture, enables innovation and celebrates pride in Tasmania.

- Launceston is a UNESCO Creative City for Gastronomy.
- Use storytelling, the arts and creativity within the community to connect people and open up conversation and start sharing ideas how to thrive at a local level.
- Reconsider Tasmanian experiences to include indigenous practices, knowledge, wisdom and stories.
- Capitalise on developed skills and invest in closing the skill gap of our diverse communities.





**Government:** Tasmania has bold and courageous leaders that work together to move forward brave actions connected to long-term outcomes that are based on science, integrity, values and voices of all Tasmanians.

- Tasmanians to be adaptable, resilient and thrive in a changing world. Governance, systems and legislation to develop and improve at a higher level for change to be achievable.
- Government seeks advice from citizen assemblies, self-organising, self-determining groups.
- Government listening to science, the experts and those with lived experiences.
- Cooperative decision making, recognise that we have fundamental value differences and rather than polarise, work through those differences collaboratively.
- Planning system needs to adapt and lead to our island's strengths.
- Government is accountable and transparent, overhaul Integrity Commission to be proper Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).
- Multicultural proactive meaningful economic participation.
- Let's work toward something long term and bigger picture. We need a high ambition coalition of strong individuals and business and greater good of everyone.

## **Tasmania to be a global leader as a thriving place we need:**

- Brave and courageous leadership.
- Have a clear model of what thriving looks like.
- Measuring progress toward our local goals.
- Show progress against the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Pride for our incredible place and opportunities we have.

Check out all the [wishes](#) from our Thriving Tasmania participants here.



## Local to Global

In analysing the results, it was clear there is a strong connection from our wishes for a Thriving Tasmania' to the global priorities known as the [UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals](#) or the 'Global Goals'. The Global Goals were adopted by every country in the world as a universal call to take action on 17 goals to end poverty, address social and environmental issues and tackle climate change and ensure all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Cities, states and communities around the world are coming up with their own locally appropriate version of the Global Goals to address their problems. For example, [Hawaii Green Growth](#) and [Amsterdam Tool for Transformative Action](#).

Thriving Tasmania showed that there is energy for Tasmanians to come together to develop our own Tasmanian way of transitioning to a sustainable future. It also showed us that there are important priorities such as creativity, arts and culture that should be prioritised in our own local roadmap – and that aren't prominent in the Global Goals. The below chart shows how each of our wishes connected to one or more of the 17 Global Goals.

## Our wishes mapped to the Global Goals



- 1 No Poverty
- 2 Zero Hunger
- 3 Good Health & Well-being
- 4 Quality Education
- 7 Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 10 Reduced Inequalities
- 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12 Responsible Consumption & Production
- 13 Climate Action
- 14 Life Below Water
- 15 Life on land
- 16 Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions
- 17 Partnerships for the Goals



# Design: Commitment to emerge stronger

Our Thriving Tasmanians shared:

## What is one commitment you can make to help Tasmania emerge stronger and thrive?

A selection of commitments made are:

- *My commitment is to travel less and use video conferencing to reduce fossil fuel consumption.*
- *Engage in my local government Council meetings and inform others in my community to have their say.*
- *Continue reaching out to neighbours to build local community and connection to place.*
- *Help multicultural communities to actively engage with Tasmania's future development vision, in order to contribute our skills and intelligence to the local economy.*
- *Maintain my changed behaviours. Buy local, drive less, more family time, staycations, increased community connection.*
- *Help young people understand the potential of Tasmanian enterprise, and to have the confidence to bring their passions to life - this "artisanal economy."*
- *Connecting more to indigenous knowledge.*
- *Keep connecting to more vulnerable people in my neighbourhood whilst things are changing.*
- *Try to make sure that local government is democratic, ethical and consultative - and focused on empowering communities to build resilience.*
- *Express kindness.*
- *Keep exploring and discussing connections between environmental health and human health (thriving), inspiring people with visions of what we can achieve to support both.*
- *Listen more.*
- *Connect my children with the beautiful wilderness of our state so that they grow to appreciate their home.*
- *Hold the first ever Australian remote control and autonomous boats and drones competition.*
- *Care for myself more.*
- *Create a community garden to provide access to fresh food for people with low incomes.*

Have a look in Appendix 1 for themed asks and offers along with contact information.



# Deploy: Asks and offers and way forward

Our Thriving Tasmanians shared a range of 'asks' for help that they need as well as 'offers' of what they can provide to others to help create a thriving Tasmania.

36 'asks' of support were made to help bring ideas to life, to share stories and create connection and create a more sustainable environment. Some examples included:

- Councillor Anna Reynolds "Hobart needs local community groups to be proactive in asking for what they need from local and state government - come forward with solutions and ideas."
- "I am very eager to connect our University Students engaged with the community and the businesses around them, please feel free to contact me with ideas if you have any: [maria.yanotti@utas.edu.au](mailto:maria.yanotti@utas.edu.au)"
- Love to be able to connect with primary producers and others who have organic waste to manage and are looking for sustainable solutions to turning that waste into wealth. [marklove@bootstrapenterprises.com.au](mailto:marklove@bootstrapenterprises.com.au)
- People in the local Tamar region who are interested in finding out more about helping our region move forward sustainably and with resilience. [TransitionTamar@hotmail.com](mailto:TransitionTamar@hotmail.com)
- Connections to local champions across North East Tasmania to build stronger connections and how I can support their

communities and young people. [adam@vandiemenproject.com.au](mailto:adam@vandiemenproject.com.au)

- Someone to help explore how a doughnut economics framework could be applied in Tasmania. [nj\\_towle@iinet.net.au](mailto:nj_towle@iinet.net.au)

37 Offers were made to help create a thriving Tasmania. Examples included:

- Georgia - Ability to facilitate and teach individuals how to have proactive courageous/tough conversations. [georgia@disruptiveco.com.au](mailto:georgia@disruptiveco.com.au)
- Nico - I am offering the opportunity and space to meet with Tasmanians from a culturally diverse background \_ We are interested in connecting people People are hard to hate close up: let's move in to connect. [Nico.vanleeuwen@mcot.org.au](mailto:Nico.vanleeuwen@mcot.org.au)
- Investors and networks to create regenerative agriculture hubs where farmers and students can ground learning, run trials etc. Funding to reduce burn out of volunteers. [regenagtas@gmail.com](mailto:regenagtas@gmail.com)
- The <https://launcestontogether.com.au/> is a resource and is being used for the Great Regional City Challenge which is a collective impact process that has activated the greater Launceston region at scale.

Willing and able to help Tasmanians develop their leadership skills and build connections cross our great state.

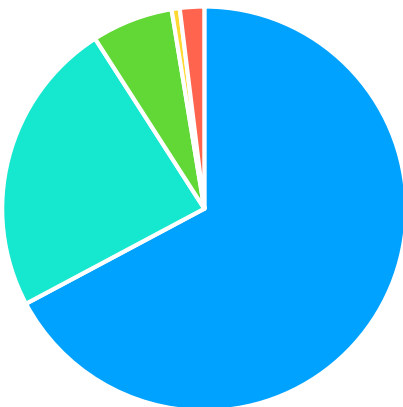
[Angela.Driver@tasmanianleaders.org.au](mailto:Angela.Driver@tasmanianleaders.org.au)



## Key Characteristics of our Thriving Tasmanians

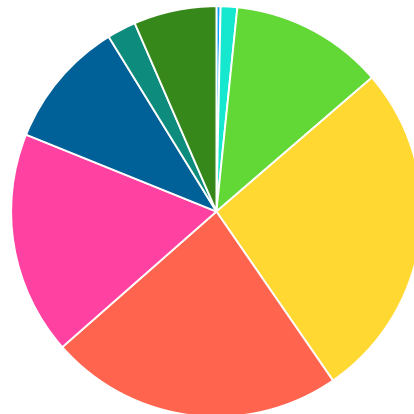
We had a good range of different age groups attend. The majority of participants are female and from the South. Thriving Tasmania was about providing space for a conversation to ask about how we emerge stronger and get a pulse of Tasmanian perspectives. It is about bringing connection and uncovering future possibilities. It is not intended to be a representative sample of Tasmania.

### Region



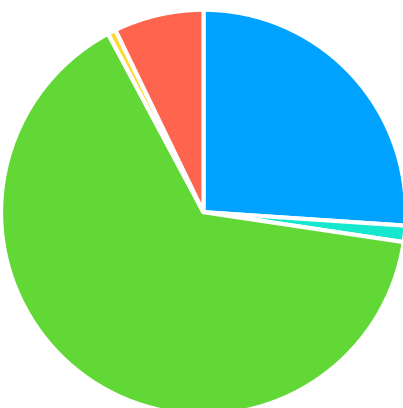
● Southern ● North & NE ● NW  
 ● West ● International and Interstate

### Age Range



● Under 16 ● 17-24 ● 25-34 ● 35-44 ● 45-54  
 ● 55-64 ● 65-74 ● Above 75 ● Blank

### Descriptive Pronouns



● He/Him ● Prefer not to Specify  
 ● She/Her ● They/them ● Blank



# Team Bios



## Jessica Robbins

Founder and Director | Tasmanian Way | [tasmanianway.org](https://tasmanianway.org)

Jessica is a big picture thinker, natural connector and passionate about what makes her island home special. With over ten years working globally in Fiji to Manhattan on island sustainability and partnerships, Jess has returned home to focus on how we can work together to increase ambition and action to maintain what is wonderful, protect what is invaluable and urgently fix problems facing our community. In doing this, Tasmania can be an example to the world of a resilient, sustainable and vibrant place.



## Rikki Mawad

Facilitator and Strategic Advisor | Tasmanian Way | [Rikkimawad.com](https://Rikkimawad.com)

Rikki is positive, strategic and solutions-focused. She is a skilled facilitator, effective communicator and experienced relationship manager.

She loves working with people, whole systems and tackling wicked problems. Her background in law, law reform, conflict resolution, politics, policy, education, communications and advocacy ensure her advice, ideas and insights are in high demand.



## Anna Tayler

Founder | The Wellbeing Hub

Working with people-centred leaders and organisations, Anna involves all voices and ideas across a system to propel organisations into a future they want to see. Drawing upon the latest evidence-based tools, research and methodologies from the fields of Positive Psychology, Appreciative Inquiry and Wellbeing, Anna's sweet spot is supporting organisations and individuals to help measure, design and deliver wellbeing confidence, motivation and capabilities. Ensuring that all voices across a system are involved in the co-creation... chaos, fun and magic are guaranteed!



# Team Bios



## Katy Cooper

Founder | Disruptive Co. | [Disruptiveco.com.au](https://disruptiveco.com.au)

Katy is an Evangelical Tasmanian. She is obsessed with bringing people together to create a lasting and sustainable future for my family and every other Tasmanian. She is passionate about helping people with ideas bring them to life.

Katy is a connector and a collaborator. She is a fire starter. Don't keep wishing it might happen. Let her help you make it a reality.



## Georgia Currant

Facilitator | Disruptive Co.

Georgia works to support effective change from a system-wide perspective. Her exposure to all aspects of business, through ten years of work within the tourism/hospitality sector, has shaped her understanding and ability to lead effective change programs. She is known for her flexibility, adaptability and her willingness to collaborate with others. This skill set helps facilitate the expansion of mindsets and the generation of viable, difference-making, creative options. She is dedicated to nurturing the growth of innovation, collaboration, and emotional intelligence within organisations and individuals. Georgia spent the majority of her childhood in the mountains of Tasmania and is most at home in the wild.



# Thank you

Thank you to the 300+ Tasmanians who showed support for Thriving Tasmania and the 140 who participated. We have been energised by your enthusiasm, inspired by your wishes for our island home and grateful for your time and dedication to help Tasmania emerge stronger.

For more information go to:  
[www.tasmanianway.org/thrivingtasmania](http://www.tasmanianway.org/thrivingtasmania)



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